

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

FRANKLIN and GULF COVID – 19 UPDATE – 10/2/21

For **Franklin County** updates straight to your phone: text **FranklinCV19** to 888777.

For **Gulf County** updates straight to your phone text **GULFCOVID** to 888777.

1. VACCINES:

COVID-19 vaccines are still available through medical providers, the health department and local pharmacies at no cost. For the latest guidance on vaccine boosters, please read the September 27, 2021 press release from the Florida Department of Health at the end of this page or go to the CDC website link at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html>

2. MORE ACCESS TO TESTING IN BOTH COUNTIES:

Nomi Health is now providing both rapid and PCR testing with or without symptoms at no cost at 4 locations within our counties. Now folks can get tested at our Wewa and PSJ health department locations in addition to our Carrabelle office and in front of Weems Hospital in Apalach. CALL (904) 295-0562 or visit <http://testing.nomihealth.com/signup/fl> to schedule your appointment today!

3. TREATMENT: People should talk to their medical provider about COVID-19 treatments appropriate for them.

About Monoclonal Antibody Therapy. If you are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19, your healthcare provider might recommend that you receive monoclonal antibody therapy.

To find a location, go to <https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/monoclonal-antibody-therapy/>

Monoclonal antibodies are a treatment authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for use in adult and pediatric patients (12 and older) who have either been diagnosed or exposed to someone with COVID-19 and are at high risk for progression to severe illness, hospitalization, or death from COVID-19.

In clinical trials, this treatment resulted in a 70% reduction in risk for hospitalization and death, and resulted in an 82% reduction in risk for contracting COVID-19 for people who were exposed to the virus by other members of their household.

4. If you are positive for COVID-19, you are infectious to others. Stay home unless you need medical care.

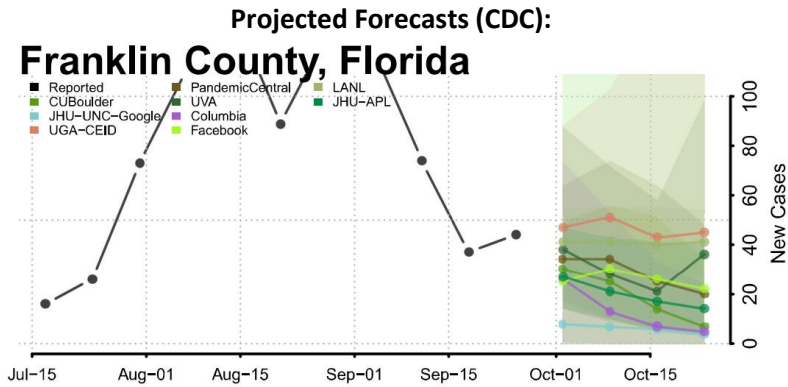
You can be with others after:

- At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared **and**
- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving

What is going on with cases in our counties?

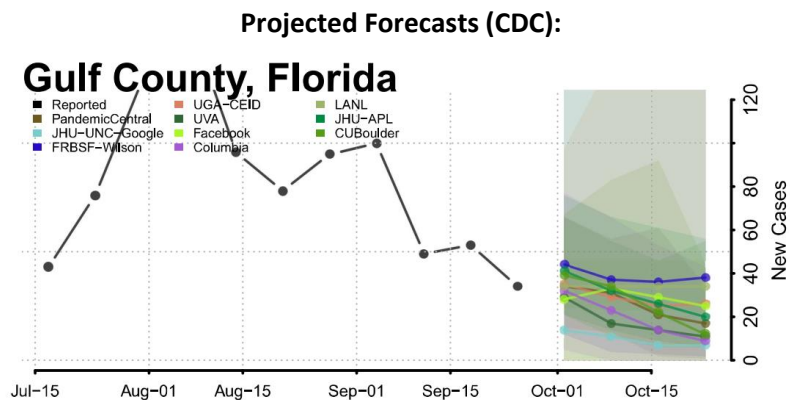
Franklin:

Week	Positive	Total tested	Percent positive*
8/20-8/26	127	357	35.57%
8/27-9/02	116	382	30.37%
9/03-9/09	74	252	29.37%
9/10-9/16	37	299	12.37%
9/17-9/23	45	317	14.20%
9/24-9/30	16	182	8.79%



Gulf:

Week	Positive	Total tested	Percent positive*
8/20-8/26	100	440	22.73%
8/27-9/02	105	465	22.58%
9/03-9/09	50	291	17.18%
9/10-9/16	54	280	19.29%
9/17-9/23	35	318	11.01%
9/24-9/30	17	232	7.33%



*How to understand percent positivity for new resident cases: residents who test positive divided by all residents tested during a time period.

What about vaccination efforts?

Franklin: 53% (Franklin population babies and up: 12,295 | Age 12 & older with vaccine: 5,831)

Gulf: 52% (Gulf population babies and up: 14,829 | Age 12 & older with vaccine: 6,805)

State: 71%

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September 27, 2021

Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose Update

On September 24, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Protection (CDC) endorsed the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' recommendation for a booster shot of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in certain populations and also recommended a booster dose for those in high risk occupational and institutional settings.

This [updated interim guidance](#) from the CDC allows for millions of Americans who are at highest risk for COVID-19 to receive a Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 booster shot to help increase their protection.

CDC recommends the following:

- People 65 years and older and residents in long-term care settings should receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series.
- People aged 50–64 years with underlying medical conditions should receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series.
- People aged 18–49 years with underlying medical conditions may receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks.
- People aged 18-64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting may receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks.

Many of the people who are now eligible to receive a booster shot received their initial vaccine early in the vaccination effort and will benefit from additional protection. With the Delta variant's dominance as the circulating strain of the COVID-19 virus, a booster shot can help strengthen protection against severe disease in those populations who are at high-risk for exposure to COVID-19 or the complications from severe disease.

The CDC will continue to monitor the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines to ensure appropriate recommendations to keep all Americans safe. The CDC indicates that they will also evaluate with similar urgency available data in the coming weeks to make additional recommendations for other populations or people who received the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine or the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.